

OMHA U15 minor hockey

Late goal secures tie for Orono U15 Leafs

Wednesday, Feb 8

— The Orono U15 Leafs faced-off with the Sturgeon Lake Thunder for the second time in two weeks. In the previously encounter played in Orono, the Leafs fell 5-2 to the Thunder. This time the fixture was played at the Thunder's home rink in Fenelon Falls. The Leafs needed a late goal to gain a 4-4 tie with their hosts.

Play was tight through the first eight minutes of the ten-minute first period. With 1:18 left in the opening frame, Orono's Casey Cornish (assists to Kellen Fox and Nolan Burrows) made the first imprint of the scoresheet. Sturgeon tied the game before the end of the period.

In the second minute of the middle stanza, Kellen Fox combined with Peyton Dawson to give Orono the lead. The Thunder once again knotted the score at 11:28. Play continued scoreless until the waning moments of the second session when Maverick Birch cashed in on a powerplay. Helpers on Birch's go-ahead marker went to Nolan Burrows and Sawyer Stephenson.

Sturgeon Lake netted a pair in the middle stages of the final period and

showed a 4-3 lead with four minutes remaining. After a series of penalties to both teams, Orono was given a man advantage opportunity with 2:14 remaining. Maverick Birch collected his second goal of the game on the ensuing PP. Peyton Dawson and Owen Smith picked up assists on Birch's equalizer.

Maxx Brady once again was tasked with tending the cage for the Leafs.

Orono Leafs downed by Durham Crusaders

Saturday, Feb 11 —

The Orono U15 Leafs travelled to the McKinney rink in Whitby to challenge the Durham Crusaders. The Leafs were downed 4-2 by the Crusaders who hold the top spot in the Victoria-Durham League standings.

The Leafs opened the scoring when Kellen Fox (assist to Peyton Dawson) lit the red light with 4:57 elapsed from the opening face-off. Durham answered with a goal thirteen seconds later.

The Crusaders scored three unanswered goals in the middle frame.

Casey Cornish combined with Tyler Broadhagen midway through the third session to pull Orono within two. The Leafs and Crusaders then battled scoreless until the

final whistle.

Maxx Brady backstopped the Leafs. He is sporting a goals against average of 2.96 in 22 games (league and tournament) thus far.